



8/16/15 8 a.m. - Advisory on Safety Precautions Related to EPA Gold King Mine Spill

Most Current Precautions Lifted – Long Term Recommendations Forthcoming

(Aztec & Farmington, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department continues working with local, regional, and federal stakeholders to advise San Juan County citizens of safety precautions, while updating those affected about the Gold King Mine Spill's pulse location, effects and long-term impact. Adherence to the following important safety measures is critical.

Do Not Use Nearby “Floodplain Level” Wells. If you live in the Animas River or San Juan River flood plain and your wellhead is at roughly the same level as the river, the Environment Department advises you to refrain from using the water for cooking and drinking or any human or animal ingestion until further notice. Do not boil river water in an attempt to purify it and use it for ingestion. Boiling the contaminated water will not remove potential contaminants.	Precaution Lifted 8/14/15 10:45 a.m. No Longer in Effect
Do Not Draw Canal or River Water. People who draw water directly from the Animas River, San Juan Rivers into irrigation canals should refrain until further notice.	Precaution Lifted 8/14/15 6:26 p.m. No Longer in Effect
Do Not Water Livestock or Irrigate Crops. Livestock owners should refrain from watering livestock from Animas or San Juan River water. Do not irrigate crops.	Precaution Lifted 8/14/15 6:26 p.m., following 12 hours of flushing ditches.
Do Conserve Water. Conservation of water is critical during the time that the pulse of contaminated water is passing through the region, and possibly for days thereafter. Until the concentration of constituents is known, drinking water systems and nearby well water users are refraining from drawing the river water, and thus supplying customers from limited clean water reserves.	Precaution Lifted 8/16/15 8 a.m. No Longer in Effect
Do Get Potable Water from Water Stations. Potable water stations have been set up through San Juan County’s Office of Emergency Management (www.sjcounty.net) for residents at the following locations. Bring your own water containers. No large tanks. Center Point Fire Station # 1 – 16 Road 2755 Flora Vista Fire Station #1 – 2 Road 3275 Valley Fire Station #4 – 4 Road 6200 Stations will be open: Saturday 8/8/15 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sunday 8/9/15 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Precaution Lifted 8/16/15 8 a.m. No Longer in Effect
Do Not Ingest Fish from the Rivers. The New Mexico Game and Fish Department advises anglers not to consume fish in the Animas River or San Juan River watershed. “Catch and Release” recommended for all fishing activities. See www.env.nm.gov/riverwatersafety/documents/150815-RPT-GoldKingMineWhitePaper-NMDGF.pdf for more information.	Precaution Modified 8/16/15 8 a.m. Partially in Effect

Please visit www.NMEDRiverWaterSafety.org for continuing updates, informational resources, and long-term monitoring associated with the New Mexico Environment Department’s activities to inform and protect monitoring communities affected by the Gold King Mine Spill of Wednesday August 5, 2015.



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